

The Standard

No. 6,472

BUENOS AIRES—SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 1884.

XXIII. YEAR.

PARRY & Co.

Articulos Incomparables

1. <i>La Patria</i>	1
2. <i>La Patria</i>	2
3. <i>La Patria</i>	3
4. <i>La Patria</i>	4
5. <i>La Patria</i>	5
6. <i>La Patria</i>	6
7. <i>La Patria</i>	7
8. <i>La Patria</i>	8
9. <i>La Patria</i>	9
10. <i>La Patria</i>	10
11. <i>La Patria</i>	11
12. <i>La Patria</i>	12
13. <i>La Patria</i>	13
14. <i>La Patria</i>	14
15. <i>La Patria</i>	15
16. <i>La Patria</i>	16
17. <i>La Patria</i>	17
18. <i>La Patria</i>	18
19. <i>La Patria</i>	19
20. <i>La Patria</i>	20

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The Standard

311 Falsos andamos en el mundo andamos de veras. Oremos.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 1884.

Associated Press Telegrams

HAVAN AGENCY

London, 11th. The Times of to-day has a leader on the Tonkin Question, which, after reviewing the possible results of recent events in that region, concludes by advising the Colonial Empire to arrange at once with France and put an end to a state of things that is injurious to the whole world.

Paris, 11th. The Comte de Paris has left for Madrid. Some papers attribute political aims to the journey.

LATEST NEWS

PRESS TELEGRAMS.

The following synopsis of the latest news by telegraph from all quarters, is taken from our colleagues.

Rosario 12th. Great scarcity of printers left. It has rained all over the province. Herman debuts to-night. Five hundred tons of stone shipped to La Plata.

La Plata 12th. Electric Light last night. Five lights on three towers. Another trial to-night.

Montevideo 12th. Decree issued that gold Argentines are legal tender. Belon has been sent to the Yi prison. Some say he has escaped. Thomson Bonar ask for longer time for drawing of Unifids. Kubly's mission well cost 20,000 pats. Ministerial crisis over. All arranged. Nothing else new.

THE WATER WORKS.

Mr. Nystrom's report to Dr. Chavarria, the Chairman of the Water Board, was published yesterday in the official journal, the *Tribuna Nacional*. It is a document of some length, and removes many of the very erroneous impressions about the inferiority of the materials used and the bad workmanship of the sub-contractor. We trust that Mr. Nystrom will favour us with his report in English, as it is a paper of much importance and will be read with interest by the foreign residents in this city.

Owing to the many exaggerated statements in the papers about the bursting of the valves and the pipes, much blame was first thrown upon Mr. Leslie, the sub-contractor, and afterwards transferred to the shoulders of Mr. Bateman, who was charged with allowing second-hand and old pipes to be pointed up by the home manufacturers and sent out here to be painted off on the Government as new. Mr. Bateman's high reputation in his profession in England would, of course, be sufficient refutation to go so far and so serious a charge; but we are desirous to see that Mr. Nystrom denies all these gross charges, and, in a very elaborate memorandum, explains the many and serious difficulties that surrounded the attempt to work the great engines and pumps before the works through the town were sufficiently complete to justify the attempt.

On the nights of the 21st and 22nd December all the new pipes were filled from the Rosales to the corner of Rivadavia and Libertad. It took 24 millions of litres to fill the pipes. For the first day or so the pipes held their own, but on the morning of the 24th December a leakage was discovered at two different points, and it was then determined to stop the great engines and go back to the old system of supply. They then set about repairing the leakage, to do which it was necessary to empty the pipes. It was discovered that the valve at the foot of the Loren tank was defective, and a new and auxiliary valve was then and there supplied. Owing to the very heavy rains, this took more time to complete than at first supposed.

With regard to the defects in the pipes, Mr. Nystrom says that nothing has occurred to justify the charge of bad workmanship by the sub-contractor, or of defective construction by the home manufacturer, as experience has shown that in such works such things will occur in every new piping, no matter how excellent the material or how careful and painstaking the superintendence.

Since the 28th December, great pressure has been maintained, and the works preparatory to putting the new engines in movement are all but

concluded; and Mr. Nystrom hopes in a very few days to be able to announce to Dr. Chavarria that all is ready to make another trial.

ANOTHER NEW RAILWAY.

Governor Rocha is the most personally progressive Governor we have ever had in Buenos Aires. Every day we have news of some new Public Work, and at the rate we are marching ahead, soon there will not be a town in the province unconnected with the capital. We give at foot the Governor's message to the Chambers asking for a law to construct a line of railway from Barracas to Cañuelas, and also to make a branch from the Western Railway at La Plata to Magdalena. We have not as yet seen the route of the line from Barracas to Cañuelas, but hear that it will probably run through Mr. Anderson's quinta. This line will prove of immense convenience to the people of the district through which it will pass, as so late as last winter such was the truly awful state of the roads, it was easier for a man to go to Pergamino or Curuzú than to the fine champagne fields and south suburbs of this very city. The increased wealth of this province since Governor Rocha took office is mainly due to the admirable go-aheadism of his progressive administration, and had Dr. Rocha been in office 20 years ago, we should now have the Great Southern Railway running to Patagonia. The following are the papers:—

B. Aires, Jan. 10th, 1884.
To the Honorable Chamber of Deputies.

The Executive has the honour to send you herewith a draft Bill authorising the laying of new railway lines to connect the towns of Cañuelas and Magdalena with the existing State lines of the province. This Bill meets a want long keenly felt, as both the districts named can be turned to profitable agricultural account only by obtaining easy means of transport. The present population of those parishes, and their production, give good ground for confidence that the traffic of the lines proposed will cover the service of the Bonds to be issued to pay for their construction. Besides, the residents of Cañuelas, being anxious to end in the work, have offered the Government 8 per cent per annum on the cost of the lines, so long as they do not yield six per cent, the contribution to be reduced gradually when the yield passes 3 per cent.

The Executive intends to ask the people of Magdalena to also lend their aid as far as they can, although it hopes that it will only be nominally required, if the development of our resources goes on as it has done for the past few years.

The importance of this matter induces the Executive to ask you to deal with it during the extraordinary session.

God guard you.
D. Rocha.
F. Jorge, F. Villamayor.

DRAFT BILL.
The Senate and Chamber, etc.

Art.—The Executive is authorized to lay down the following railways:—

1st.—A line from South Barracas, to form a junction with the Western line to La Plata, and on to Cañuelas.

2nd.—A line from one of the stations of the Western Railway at La Plata, and thence to the town of Magdalena.

Art.—The construction of these lines shall be entrusted to the Board of the Western Railway, or to a Special Commission named with permission of the Senate; but, in the latter case, when the works are finished they must be handed over to the Western Railway Board.

Art.—The lines can be built in sections, beginning with the Cañuelas line, if convenient, from the point of junction with the Western. Both lines must be built of the same gauge and solidly as the Western, and with like materials.

Art.—To meet the cost of the lines, the Executive can issue Railway Bonds, at 6 per cent interest and accumulative amortization at par, by drawings with liberty to increase the amortization of the pig-headed, flagrant, ignorant and retrograde sleeping beauties of the present capital would bring to this point all the politicians of the northern colonies the port of Santa Fe would soon be backed up, alfalfa would grow in all its streets, and the inhabitants of "Sleepy Hollow," instead of sleeping a stack of four hours, would remain in their beds all the twenty-four.

Art.—The survey of the line shall be made under direction of the Executive.

Art.—All funds necessary for the permanent works, stations, engines, etc., shall be declared of public utility and expropriated.

Art.—Let this be communicated.

F. Villamayor.

ROSAARIO.
(From our own Correspondent.)

January 11th. I read with great interest your extracts from the notes of Captain Hunter Davidson's expedition to the region of the Falls of Yguazú. It seems only yesterday that I hailed the departure of this party as the solving of an in-

teresting topographic and geological mystery, for the data we possessed were meagre in the extreme, and there was a strong suspicion that the so-called Brazilian expedition, in so far as the exploration of the environs of the great Falls is concerned, was apocryphal. On a former occasion I gave some interesting details of the extraordinary trip of Lieutenant Patifio to the Falls of "Guayrá," in the Upper Paraná, in the time of the Paraguayan war, the older Lopez. Patifio was the first and only man who has minutely described these great Falls, in a report published in the official and only paper in the country at that time, the *Seminarario*, a report which, it appears, was taken on notice of here, as the Argentine press was employed then in abusing Paraguay and its President. Patifio's report has been republished lately in pamphlet form by a patriotic native, and it is from this latter publication that I took the data I gave to the Standard readers. I remember mentioning the strange fact that Patifio and his party of fourteen soldiers, on passing the mouth of the Y Guazú, heard the thundering roar of the Victoria Falls without the slightest idea of the fact that the falls were within six leagues of one of the greatest cataraacts in the world. In fact, Patifio says that he was told there was a fall six feet high in the Y Guazú, a short distance from its embouchure. He, however, had been ordered to find and describe the Falls of Guayrá, and with the stern fidelity and obedience of a Roman or a Paraguayan soldier (the terms are synonymous) he turned neither to the right nor to the left, and allowed nothing to interfere with his difficult commission.

From the extracts published by the Standard, it appears that Mr. Hunter Davidson's trials and difficulties were equally, if not more perilous, than those of Lieutenant Patifio, and he deserves great commendation for the constancy he displayed. I am quite anxious to see Mr. Davidson's full report, which undoubtedly will be extremely interesting, as describing rather a mysterious land abounding in physical wonders, of which the Victoria Falls are the most extraordinary, and a description of which is very acceptable to novel-seekers as well as to men of science. Do not think I have arbitrarily given the name Victoria to these Falls. Should the word "Y Guazú" be superseded by another, I think Captain Davidson has acquired the right to be the new godfather; but, I may say, that in the map in which I first studied South American geography, were the words, "River Guazú, Falls of Victoria," a fact that seems to prove that in the time of the dominion of the Jesuits the cataraact was known by that name.

You would hardly realize how gratified I am to be able to say that something good has emanated from "Sleepy Hollow." The new Minister, Mr. Muñoz, a Rosario man, formerly a merchant, and lately a *gife politico*, is now immediately on his entrance to office he got the Governor to call together the Legislature in order to reconsider the foolish and arbitrary law suppressing the Municipalities, the last act of Dr. Iriondo to strengthen his personal influence in the province. And Mr. Muñoz has not waited for the dis-

gust of the Legislature, but has published a Decree, that pending the derogation of the offensive law, the Government shall take the responsibility of re-establishing all the Municipalities in the Province.

One of Mr. Muñoz's last acts has been to order the immediate payment of all the schoolmasters in the province, to whom the Government owed from one to two years' salary. I will not compromise myself by too much laudation, for our public men are often very disappointing cattle; very few turn out to be satisfactory as our President, General Rosas, who is forcing even his former political enemies to admire him. I entertain, however, strong hopes that Mr. Muñoz will reverse the work of regenerating the political situation. If he remains in his present position of Minister of Government, it is very probable that the road will be cleared for him to the curule chair. This would seal the fate of "Sleepy Hollow," for Rosario would become the capital and the reign of the pig-headed, flagrant, ignorant and retrograde sleeping beauties of the present capital would terminate for ever; railways would bring to this point all the politicians of the northern colonies the port of Santa Fe would soon be backed up, alfalfa would grow in all its streets, and the inhabitants of "Sleepy Hollow," instead of sleeping a stack of four hours, would remain in their beds all the twenty-four.

It is strange that although the National Government is now aware of the immense strain on the Rosario Custom House, they do not take any order measures to facilitate the dispatch of goods, or rather those they have taken are only half measures.

The commercial community completely baffled by the delay and expense. The custom act and duty are too heavy their usual tariff if they are to deliver, or receive goods, from the Custom House, on account of the great loss of time involved. This state of things is particularly hard on Lampart and Holt's regular line, and other steamers, whose agents have only a limited time to discharge and load. They find the greatest difficulty in procuring carts even at double the ordi-

nary price. In the general work of the town the cartmen can make 7 or 8 trips in the day, but when the Custom House is concerned, they are delayed so long that very often they are only able to make a couple.

There have been some few sales of new wheat at reserved prices. The grain is good, weighing about 60 to the bushel. Speculators have not yet unbuttoned their pockets, and farmers are quickly securing their crops and do not seek purchasers, as the present prices are unsatisfactory to them, and they believe that the heat of speculation will run the prices up. However, purchasers have been so badly hit in former years, that I do not expect that the competition will be altogether favourable to the farmer this year.

There is a considerable quantity of old wheat lying about the unhappy owners having held on to it in desperation, as did also the wheat in most of it. A cargo of fair old wheat was shipped from this port a few days ago, and I know of 12,000 bushels in Rodan that the holder clings to yet. The millers in the northern colonies still possess some of last year's wheat, which will now be ground up and mixed with the wheat of the new crop. I do not well see how the wheat-growers in Santa Fe will be able to ship the large quantity of grain of the northern colonies, the ports of Santa Fe and Santa Rosa are quite inadequate, and if the river falls to low, no ocean-going vessel will venture there. Why has there not been built a railway connecting Rosario with those wealthy colonies?

W. P.

The Buenos Aires' Mails.

London, December 17th.

We learn from Cairo that yesterday morning the Khedive received a telegram from the Governor of Khartoum giving an account of the defeat of Hicks at Khatia brought by a camel-driver who accompanied the Sudan expedition in the service of a suitor. The account confirms that originally made public. Our correspondent at Yuma telegraphs that, notwithstanding the statements to the contrary, the alarm at the Mahdi's success is increasing in Constantinople. It is confidently asserted, our correspondent adds, that several Turkish officers are with the Mahdi's troops, and that many more are deserting to him from the Yemen force.

In the French Chamber on Saturday Mr. Jules Ferry brought forward a Bill authorising a supplementary credit of twenty million francs during the first six months of 1884 for the operations in Tonquin. At the request of the Government the Bill was voted upon. The report of the Committee on the new Tonquin credit will be read to-day.

Yesterday morning, as we learn by special telegram, the Crown Prince of Germany arrived at Genoa. He landed shortly after eleven o'clock, and as he drove through the streets was received with enthusiastic cheers. After reaching the Palace he appeared twice on the balcony in response to the continued acclamations of the crowd. The members of his suite profess entire ignorance, our correspondent says, whether he will visit the Pope. Our Berlin correspondent telegraphs that according to an official note in the *North German Gazette* the Vatican has not yet received any official intimation of the approaching visit, but that one will be given in due time. The initiative of the Prince's visit both to the King of Italy and the Pope came, it adds, from the German Foreign Office.

King Alfonso opened the Spanish Cortes on Saturday afternoon. In his speech from the Throne he referred to his recent journey abroad as having led on his return to a manifestation only possible when Monarch and people are united, which sufficiently compensated him for the excessive grief the late insurrection caused him. His Majesty afterwards referred to the visit of the Crown Prince of Germany, to the protocol signed with this country, and the commercial negotiations with Portugal, Italy, Denmark, the Netherlands, and the United States. In conclusion, he enumerated the various duties of the Government, including the Bill for the extension of the suffrage.

Señor Zorilla has issued a manifesto dated London, the 11th inst., which is published by a Madrid paper. The manifesto severely criticises the policy of the Restoration, and considers a Revolution inevitable and certain of success.

Our correspondent in Vienna telegraphs that a police commissioner who had been present at a workmen's meeting in one of the distant suburbs of the city was shot dead on returning home on Saturday night. No disturbances occurred during the meeting, and no reason was known for the crime.

We learn from Paris that Victor Hugo has addressed a letter to the Emperor praying him to grant a pardon to O'Donnell.

Count Münster, the German Ambassador, presided on Saturday evening, at Willis's Rooms, at the annual dinner of the German Society of Beneficence.

A special meeting of the School Board for London was held on Saturday, for the purpose of considering the remaining recommendations in connection with a new scheme of teachers' salaries proposed by the School Management Committee. The matter was debated for several hours. A number of the recommendations were agreed to, and the discussion on the remainder was adjourned. A memorial was received from the teachers in the employment of the Board, urging that the salaries might not be lowered.

On Saturday, at the Dublin winter assizes, the trial of Peter Wade for the wilful murder of Patrick Quinn was resumed and concluded. The jury, in finding Wade guilty of wilful murder, suggested that his punishment should be penal servitude for life. The Chief Justice, in sentencing the prisoner to death, promised to forward the statement of the foreman to the proper quarter. The trial of the prisoners charged with conspiring to murder Mr. W. B. Smyth, was adjourned to the next assizes on account of the continued illness of a jurymen.

Judgment in the case of Belt v. Lawes, upon the application for a new trial, was delivered on Saturday in the Lord Chief Justice of England's Court. The judges were divided in opinion, Mr. Justice Manisty being in favour of the verdict of the jury, the Lord Chief Justice thinking that there should be a new trial on all the grounds alleged, and Mr. Justice Denman declaring for a new trial unless the plaintiff, Mr. Belt, consented to accept the reduced damages of £500. Lord Coleridge and Mr. Justice Manisty, in order to avoid the grave inconvenience of a fresh trial agreed to the compromise suggested by Mr. Justice Denman, and it was settled that the plaintiff's decision must be announced in open court next Friday.

Mr. Justice North had before him on Saturday an action instituted by the Attorney-General against the Dean and Chapter of Manchester to recover money which it was alleged the defendants had not applied in the manner prescribed by an Act of Parliament passed for the purpose of providing endowments for poor parishes in that diocese. Mr. Justice North, at the conclusion of the case, reserved judgment.

At the Central Criminal Court on Saturday the case of *James Freeman* was called for having conspired with others to cast away the ship *Denia* and its cargo, when on the high seas, with intent to defraud the underwriters of £36,000. For the defence it was contended that although a gross fraud had been perpetrated in reference to the cargo, the charge against the prisoner was a most qualified one. The jury acquitted the prisoner.

In the case of *Lester Copeland*, an American, who had been arrested and injured by a gentleman at Charlton under the impression that he was a burglar, the Woolwich police magistrate has decided that while the weapon was not used without cause, he believed the prisoner had no felonious intent when he was discovered, and discharged the prisoner.

The stock markets on Saturday were dull, in sympathy with a further decline of 4 to 4½ per cent in Egyptian stocks. Home railway securities receded ½ to 1 per cent. Louisville and Nashville shares fell 2½, and Virginia Funded 2½. Consols closed at 109½, 4½ for money, and 109½, 1½ for the account. No bullion movements were reported at the Bank of England.

THE FRENCH IN MADAGASCAR.

Madagascar, Nov. 13.

The French vessels continue their marauding expeditions along the coast. The *Boursat* has bombarded Mahabo, some small ports in Antongil Bay, and Vohemar, in British South.

At Vohemar the lives and property of British subjects were exposed to great danger during the bombardment, and the French afterwards landed and burnt down the town, destroying a considerable quantity of British property, although the British flag was flying on shore at the time.

No resistance was offered at either of these places, the *Havas* retiring to the interior at the first fire. The French Commander gave no notice to those on shore before commencing the bombardment, nor was any offer made to secure the safety of British subjects by taking them on board his vessel.

On leaving Vohemar, however, the *Boursat* offered to convey British subjects to Tamatave, and this offer was accepted, as the people had lost everything, and further feared the resentment of the natives, who might hold them in some way responsible for their misfortunes.

At Marosantia and Mananara, so far as can be ascertained, foreign property was not damaged. When passing Mahabo, on his way back to Tamatave, the French Commander observed that that *Hova* flag was again flying, bombarded the unfortunate place for a third time, and passed on leaving the flag still flying.

It is stated that the *Nièvre* and the *Vaudreuil* have set out for the purpose of bombarding the southern ports of occupying Fort Dauphin, an old port established by the French two centuries ago, and which is said now to be occupied by a southern tribe called Antemoro, who have risen against the *Hovas* and driven them from the fort. Other ports along the north-east coast are also to be shelled.

It is stated that all the Ulster Magistrates and many of the gentry will be conspicuous by their absence from Lord Spencer's forthcoming *leisure*. The Rosmore incident aroused a storm of indignation against the Executive.

This afternoon the Lord Lieutenant received a deputation from the Corporation of Dublin, desiring that his Excellency would move the Irish Executive to give immediate effect to the recommendations of the Municipal Board of Dublin, by introducing a Bill for the purpose. The Lord Lieutenant, in reply, admitted the necessity of dealing with the subject in some shape or another, but it was a matter which gave rise to considerable difficulties. He did not know why the Act of 1872 was not extended to Ireland, for it seemed only reasonable that the same Act should be passed for Ireland as well as England. Mr. Gray, M.P., feared the adoption of the Act of 1872 in Ireland would be more disastrous than to let things alone.

The present Government will have the credit of having, for the first time since the repeal of the Party Processions Act, stopped the annual demonstration of the Apprentice Boys in commemoration of the shutting of the gates of Derry. This evening the Lord Lieutenant decided to prohibit the usual display on the 18th December, the anniversary of that event, in consequence of the likelihood of a breach of the peace. The Nationalists announced a rival demonstration for the same day, solely with the view of preventing the Apprentice Boys having the customary parade. An order for the suppression of the Nationalist procession is also issued.

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This afternoon the Lord Lieutenant received a deputation from the Corporation of Dublin, desiring that his Excellency would move the Irish Executive to give immediate effect to the recommendations of the Municipal Board of Dublin, by introducing a Bill for the purpose. The Lord Lieutenant, in reply, admitted the necessity of dealing with the subject in some shape or another, but it was a matter which gave rise to considerable difficulties. He did not know why the Act of 1872 was not extended to Ireland, for it seemed only reasonable that the same Act should be passed for Ireland as well as England. Mr. Gray, M.P., feared the adoption of the Act of 1872 in Ireland would be more disastrous than to let things alone.

The present Government will have the credit of having, for the first time since the repeal of the Party Processions Act, stopped the annual demonstration of the Apprentice Boys in commemoration of the shutting of the gates of Derry. This evening the Lord Lieutenant decided to prohibit the usual display on the 18th December, the anniversary of that event, in consequence of the likelihood of a breach of the peace. The Nationalists announced a rival demonstration for the same day, solely with the view of preventing the Apprentice Boys having the customary parade. An order for the suppression of the Nationalist procession is also issued.

LATZINA'S MAP.

(Continued.)

In the matter of climate the Republic is liberally endowed. The name by which the capital goes, Buenos Aires, "good airs," seems to be applicable to the whole country. "The people of all European races, whatever the origin of these may be, can come over to this country without any previous acclimatization, and continue their usual manner of living without the slightest danger to their health." There are no endemic diseases at all of a malignant character, and epidemics appear to be exceedingly rare. The Argentine Republic is essentially an agricultural country. Its soil is of most fertile nature, and recent statistics show that the Republic is rapidly becoming one of the great grain providers of the world. In the Provinces of Buenos Aires, Entre Rios, and Santa Fe wheat, maize, and linseed are largely grown. In the Provinces of Tucuman and Santiago del Estero the sugar-cane is planted to such an extent that very shortly there will be no necessity to import sugar. The cane is also being reared in the territory of the Misiones, where from the nature of the soil and climate its growth is most prolific. One noteworthy feature about farming in the Republic is that the land

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husband who resides here. 11/11 jo 18

A close-up photograph of the binding of the book. The spine is visible on the left, and the edges of the pages are on the right. The binding material appears to be a dark, textured cloth or leather. The pages are yellowed and show signs of wear and discoloration.

